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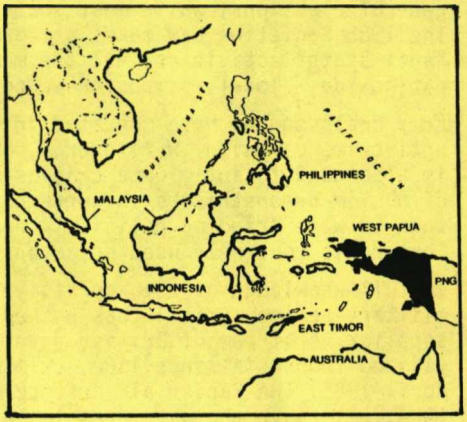
Stop Arming Indonesia

Britain has become a major exporter of weapons to the military government of Indonesia since 1978. Indonesia is engaged in two colonial wars, in West Papua and East Timor. Protest within the country against the regime's grip on all forms of political activity is met with arrests, restriction of dissidents, intimidation of lawyers and journalists, and control of the press. In September 1984, troops opened fire on demonstrators in Jakarta's Tanjung Priok harbour district, killing over 60 and injuring hundreds more. Torture is systematically used everywhere against political opponents and against those opposed to Indonesian rule in East Timor and West Papua; disappearances are common, particularly in the colonial territories.



INDONESIA'S COLONIAL WARS...

... <u>in East Timor:</u>

Atrocities were widespread after Indonesia invaded in 1975.

200,000 - a third of the population - have died from aerial bombardment, starvation, and massacres.

Renewed military operations against the Fretilin resistance since 1983 have been accompanied by more atrocities against civilians, most of whom now live in Army-controlled strategic villages.

... <u>in West Papua:</u>

Annexed by Indonesia in 1963.

Since 1965, resistance has been met with military operations by the Indonesian army against villagers.

100,000 Papuans have been killed, and in 1984 12,000 Papuans fled as refugees to Papua New Guinea.

BRITISH ARMS SALES TO INDONESIA SINCE 1978

3 Tribal Class Navy Frigates

20 Hawk advanced trainer/strike aircraft

4 WASP helicopters

Rapier air defence missiles

Seawolf missile launchers

Saladin, Saracen, and Ferret armoured cars (no. unknown)

MRNS 9000 marine radar and navigation simulators

Solartron Simulation system

Under negotiation:

more Hawks and Rapiers;

a major training programme.

Indonesia's military regime, strengthened by major British arms sales, has ruled the country with an iron fist since General Suharto came to power in 1965. Army-instigated massacres following the takeover killed an estimated one million people. No independent political parties exist: the Army's party, GOLKAR, uses its supremacy in the state apparatus to "win" general elections, while most seats are filled by presidential appointees. The 1985 Societies Law makes all organisations liable to dissolution for "anti-state" activities. All the media are under government control; many nationwide, local, campus or school publications were outlawed in 1984.

Army death squads have operated in the cities since 1983 in a so-called anti-crime campaign. Well over 4,000 have been shot dead in a campaign that is also used to intimidate critics of the regime. Following the massacre of Muslim demonstrators in September 1984, hundreds were arrested. More than 60 were tried on political charges in the first three months of 1985. Torture is routinely used on anyone arrested on 'subversion' charges.

In full knowledge of the aggressive and repressive nature of the Indonesian military regime, Britain has pushed hard since 1978 to become a major arms supplier. A stream of British government ministers and generals have visited Indonesia since 1982, culminating with Mrs Thatcher's visit in April 1985. The Rapier air defence missile contract, concluded in December 1984, will pave the way for sales of more advanced military equipment, training, and the transfer of technology to boost Indonesia's own fast growing arms industry, unless action is taken now. You can help to reverse the process:

- Inform others of Indonesia's violations of human rights and British arms sales by distributing this leaflet to your friends, trade union, church, local peace group etc.;
- Ask your MP to call for an arms embargo;
- Raise the issue in your local media by writing to your local paper and calling radio phone-in programmes.

More detailed information on the situation in Indonesia is available from TAPOL, the British Campaign for the Defence of Political Prisoners and Human Rights in Indonesia. Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT) keeps available information on British arms sales to human rights violators. CAAT works for an end to all British weapons exports and the conversion of military industry to socially useful production. If you would like to discover more and/or support the campaign to stop British arms sales to Indonesia, please complete and return the form below to either:

TAPOL, 8A Treport Street, London SW18 2BP, tel: 01-874 3262/9684, or
CAAT, 5 Caledonian Road, London N1 9DX, tel: 01-278 1976.

☐ Please send ____ copies of this leaflet @ £1.35 per 100 postage included.

☐ Please send information on TAPOL's work.

☐ Please send information on British arms sales, the alternatives, and CAAT.

☐ I enclose a donation of £_____ towards the cost of the campaign.

NAME & ADDRESS:

tapol

CAMPAIGN AGAINST ARMS TRADE